THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The Project on Cattle Herd Improvement for increased productivity using embryo transfer technology (ETT) is an S&T Project being implemented in the mission mode. The progress made under the major items of the project till June, 1987 is as follows :

—Five interim Embryo Transfer (ET) laboratory facilities and one sub-centre have been established.

—Embryo transfer technology has been standardised for Indian cows.

5 calfs have been borne through embryo transfer. A large number of pregnancies have been reported from various centres.

—Training of personnel is progressing satisfactorily.

—Pregnancy through experimental surgical transfers in buffaloes is successful.

(b) The agencies involved in the implementation of the embryo transfer technology S&T project are :

1. DBT, Ministry of Science & Technology (Nodal agency).

2. National Dairy Development Board, Anand (lead implementing agency).

3. Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar.

4. National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal.

5. National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi.

The overall project monitoring guidance and control is exercised by a Project Management Committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Deptt. of Biotechnology with heads of implementing agencies as Members. Additionally, day-to-day management and coordination of the projects, micro level project monitoring, progress reviews, identification of problem area and initiating remedial measures etc. are undertaken by a Project Managers' Coordination Committee headed by a Programme Director and having representatives of other implementing agencies. Additionally, a Technical Committee has also been constituted for advising on specific technical matters. A Committee for Identification of Indian Breeds of Cattle and Buffalloes for ET has also been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture for making recommendations of appropriate breeding policies for the ET Project.

(c) The S&T project on ETT is progressing satisfactorily as per schedule.

(d) The project cost has been estimated at Rs. 16.85 crores for the implementation period of 5 years. So far an amount of Rs. 60 lakhs has been released. As far as the financial resources are concerned, we do not have to rely on foreign collaboration and financial aid. However, over-seas training for our scientific personnel and learning such techniques from expatriate experts may be necessary in specific areas, as have already been successfully developed elsewhere, and are not available within the country.

Opening of br[illegible] Bhandar in Madras and

1325. SHRI J. P. GOYAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kendriya Bhandar has opened its branches in Madras and Bombay;

(b) if so, when and the amount so far spent by the Kendriya Bhandar on opening of its branches in Madras and Bombay and the amount granted by Government to meet expenses on this account;

(c) whether the bye-laws of the Kendriya Bhandar (Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited) provided for opening of its branches outside the Union Territory of Delhi;

(d) if not, the level at which the decision to open the branches of Kendriya Bhandar outside the Union Territory of Delhi was taken and implemented; and

(e) whether the said decision was taken in the Board of Directors' meeting and if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amount spent by Kendriya Bhandar on opening of its Branches in Madras and one in Bombay is as under :—

Madras Branch		
Capital funds transferred to Madras Branch	Rs.	3,75,000·00
Other exp.	Rs.	55,556.32
TOTAL	Rs.	4,30,556·32
Bombay Branch		
Capital funds transferred to Bombay Branch	Rs.	2,00,000.00
Other exp.	Rs.	15,670·00
TOTAL	Rs.	2,15,670·00

The Government has granted a loan of Rs. 3 lakhs for opening the branches out side Delhi to enable Kendriya Bhandar to meet the expenditure on opening two branches in Madras.

(c) to (e) The bye-laws of the Kendriya Bhandar do not restrict the Society from running its business outside Delhi. In fact, it is provided in the bye-laws that the objectives of the Society are primarily to assist Central Government employees etc. in obtaining food stuffs, essential commodities and other consumer goods at reasonable prices. Thus the objectives of Kendriya Bhandar are to serve Central Government servants and no restriction is placed under the bye-laws for making essential commodities available to Central Government servants outside Delhi.

It may also be mentioned that Kendriya Bhandar was set up in 1963 in pursuance of a Cabinet decision which envisaged that the scheme with suitable variation would be extended to other important cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras soon as some experience of running the scheme is gained in Delhi. Keeping in view the mandate contained in the Cabinet decision as also in order to make essential commodities available to Central Government servants, as per objectives of the Society, stationed outside Delhi, branches of Kendriya Bhandar have been opened at Madras and Bombay.

[illegible] opening the branch stores outside Delhi was conveyed to the Board of Directors.

Electronics complex in West Bengal

1326. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up an electronics complex in West Bengal for which that State has got experienced hands and rich infrastructure; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal by the Government of India to set up an electronics complex in West Bengal. However, Government encourages setting up of electronics industries throughout the country in any permissible area. In West Bengal, the State Government is developing the industrial area in the Salt Lake city as an electronic complex. Department of Electronics is constructing a new building for its Electronics Regional Test laboratory (ERTL) in that area. The Government will give all support and guidance for the establishment of the complex.